



2004-2005 Graduation and Dropout Rates Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

Q: Will CEPI utilize the Education Data Network (EDN) to calculate the 2004-05 rates this year?

A: No. The EDN application has been dismantled and is no longer available for use.

Q: How and when will the school districts access their rates?

A: The Web-based Graduation/Dropout Review and Comment Application is scheduled to open in late spring. The application will be pre-loaded with data aggregated from the Single Record Student Database (SRSD) fall 2004, spring 2005, end-of-year 2005, and fall 2005 submissions. The application will allow school districts' authorized users an opportunity to review, modify, comment and print the data utilized to calculate their rates. CEPI will send e-mail notification to school district superintendents, PSA administrators, and authorized users when the application opens. CEPI will use district e-mail addresses from the School Code Master.

Q: How does a school district superintendent or PSA district administrator appoint an authorized user for the Graduation/Dropout Review and Comment Application?

A: The security agreement has been e-mailed to each school district superintendent and PSA administrator as identified in the School Code Master. This security agreement is also available via the "Graduation and Dropout Rates Information" Quick Link on the CEPI Web site.

Q: Who can become an authorized user for the Graduation/Dropout Review and Comment Application?

A: The selection of authorized users is at the discretion of the school district superintendent or the PSA administrator.

Q: Can an employee of a charter school management company edit a Public School Academy's data?

A: Yes. The charter school management company's employee would need to have the Public School Academy administrator submit a security agreement giving the company's employee authorization to edit the district's data.

Q: Can an ISD staff member edit a school district's data?

A: Yes. The ISD staff member would need to have the district superintendent submit a security agreement giving the ISD staff member authorization to edit the district's data.

Q: How were the schools/facilities selected to receive graduation and dropout rates?

A: If a building reported ten or more students in the tenth, eleventh and twelfth grades in the fall 2004 Single Record Student Database (SRSD) submission, the school/facility has been identified to receive graduation and dropout rates. Reference the document titled "How Schools/Facilities and Districts Were Selected to Receive Graduation and Dropout Rates for the 2004-2005 School Year" posted on the CEPI Web site.

Q: CEPI did not calculate graduation and dropout rates for my high school last year. Will my high school receive rates this year?

A: Due to changes in the State School Aid Act, some schools/facilities that did not receive rates last year will receive rates this year.

Q: Will alternative education and special education centers receive rates?

A: Due to changes in the State School Aid Act, alternative education and special education centers operated by a Local Education Agency (LEA) or Public School Academy (PSA) that meet the minimum requirements will receive rates. (See "How Schools/Facilities and Districts Were Selected to Receive Graduation and Dropout Rates for the 2004-2005 School Year" posted on the CEPI Web site for minimum requirements.)

Q: When will CEPI calculate true cohort graduation and dropout rates?

A: CEPI is planning to publish a four-year cohort rate for the 2006-2007 school year.

Q: What methodology will CEPI use to calculate the 2004-2005 rates?

A: CEPI will utilize the same methodology as in past years. Reference the document titled "Overview of Michigan's 2004-2005 Graduation and Dropout Methodology" posted on the CEPI Web site.

Q: How will students who are retained in grade be counted?

A: A student who is retained in grade will be considered a transfer-out of his/her current graduating class and a transfer-in for the next lowest graduating class.

Q: If a student is submitted as "unknown" or "dropout," will that student be counted as a dropout?

A: If a student is originally identified as being included in the school/facility or district population, and the student is later submitted as unknown or as a dropout, the State will attempt to locate the student's UIC in another school district before the student is considered a dropout for the school year. If the student's UIC is located in another school district, the student will not be considered a dropout. However, if the student's UIC is not located in another school district, the student will be considered a dropout.